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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/811,512	03/20/2001	Benyahia Nasli-Bakir		9411

7590 04/23/2002

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EXAMINER

MICHL, PAUL R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1714

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2002

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Group Art Unit

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homma or Hendrix or Du Pont or Demarey or Mudge or Burgert or Schulz. Applicants' claims are directed to a composition comprising etherified amino resin, polymer from unsaturated monomer, curing agent and polyvinyl alcohol and a composition comprising polymer from unsaturated monomer, carboxylic acid and polyvinyl alcohol. The claimed curing agent encompasses organic and inorganic curing agents. The claimed carboxylic acid encompasses ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acids such as acrylic acid, polymeric carboxylic acids such as polyacrylic acid, aromatic carboxylic acids such as phthalic acid, dicarboxylic acids such as adipic acid, and monocarboxylic acids such as stearic acid. Homma, Hendrix, Du Pont, Demarey, Mudge, Burgert and Schulz all disclose compositions which may comprise the ingredients recited in applicants' claims. Homma discloses polyvinyl alcohol in column 4, line 25 and etherified

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amino resin in column 5, lines 35-50. Homma also has disclosure of curing agents and polymers from unsaturated monomers. Hendrix discloses polymers from unsaturated monomer and carboxy acrylic polymers in column 11, lines 45-60. Du Pont discloses etherified amino resin in column 8, line 65 and polyvinyl alcohol in column 8, lines 15-18. Du Pont also has disclosure of polymers from unsaturated monomer and curing agents. Demarey discloses etherified amino resin in column 3, line 20 and polyvinyl alcohol in column 8, line 62. Demarey also discloses curing agents and polymers from unsaturated monomer. Mudge discloses polymers from unsaturated monomers having cross-linking groups in claim 1 and ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid in claim 6. Burgert discloses polymers from unsaturated monomer having cross-linking groups and polyvinyl alcohol in claims 1 and 2. Schulz discloses etherified amino resin in column 7, lines 30-35 and polyvinyl alcohol in column 24, line 63. Schulz also discloses polymers from unsaturated monomer and curing agents. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to formulate compositions according to these references comprising etherified amino resin, polymer from unsaturated monomer, curing agent and polyvinyl alcohol and it would be obvious to formulate compositions according to these references comprising polymer from unsaturated monomer having cross-linking groups, carboxylic acid, and polyvinyl alcohol. The motivation is that all of the references

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specifically recite the required ingredients in applicants' claims and all of the references teach that compositions of the various disclosed ingredients are to be formulated.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Michl whose telephone number is (703) 308-2451. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan, can be reached on (703) 306-2777. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-5433.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2351.

PRMichl:cdc

April 17, 2002


PAUL R. MICHL
PATENT EXAMINER
ART UNIT 156